

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Shell S. Simpson et al.

Serial No.: 10/001,721

Filed: October 30, 2001

Docket No.: 10007661-1

Title: WEB-BASED IMAGING SERVICE PROVIDING RESERVATION

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 4, 5, 11, 12, and 13 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of relieving competition between processing jobs sharing a production device, said method comprising:

[[a.]] accessing from a user's browser a destination service representing ~~at least one~~ said production device;

[[b.]] retrieving ~~said user's~~ imaging information of said user by said destination service;

[[c.]] selecting among production options provided by said destination service for determining a first processing job to process said imaging information using said ~~at least one~~ production device;

[[d.]] estimating ~~the a~~ time duration required to process said first processing job using said ~~at least one~~ production device with said selected production options;

[[e.]] providing said user an option of reserving a start time for deferred processing of said first processing job using said ~~at least one~~ production device ~~in accordance with~~ said selected production options; and

[[f.]] if said user opts to reserve ~~a the~~ start time, ~~then~~ setting a first deferred start time, storing said first processing job during a deferral period until said first deferred start time ~~occurs~~, and ~~then deferred~~ processing said first processing job using said production device ~~in accordance with~~ said selected production options at said first deferred start time; and such that,

if processing of a second processing job is requested during a time period ~~that includes including~~ any remaining portion of the deferral period and the estimated processing time of the first processing job, providing an option of reserving a second deferred start time for deferred processing of the second ~~processing job is provided~~, the second deferred start time occurring after an estimated completion time for deferred processing of said first processing job.

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2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said first processing job is stored in a medium selected from the group consisting of a hard disk and an image store associated with said user's identity.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said setting said first deferred start time includes avoiding conflict with unavailable deferred start times of said production device.
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising estimating the resources required to process said first processing job using said production device with said selected production options.
5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 ~~wherein setting further comprises further comprising~~ reserving quantities of said ~~respective~~ resources required to process said first processing job during said deferral period.
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5 wherein said reserved resources required to process said first processing job are monitored during said deferral period.
7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein during said deferral period a warning message is displayed whenever any of said reserved resources is depleted to a quantity not greater than said reserved quantity of said reserved resource.
8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein during said deferral period said reserved resources are reported as if said reserved quantities of said reserved resources had already been consumed.
9. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein during said deferral period said warning message is removed if said reserved resources are replenished above said reserved quantity.

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10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising interrupting an existing processing job having a first arrived at priority, that is currently using a production device, such that another processing job can use said production device, said another processing job having a second arrived at priority different from said first arrived at priority.

11. (Currently Amended) A destination service representing a production device, said destination service operable to:

download content into a browser;

retrieve first imaging information;

select, under user interactive control via said content, from among production options for processing said first imaging information using said production device;

estimate ~~the a~~ time duration required to process said first imaging information using said production device ~~in accordance~~ with said selected production options;

provide an option of reserving a first deferred start time for deferred processing of said first imaging information; and

if ~~a the~~ first deferred start time is reserved, ~~interactively determine said first deferred start time and~~ implement deferred processing of said first imaging information ~~in accordance~~ using said production device with said selected production options at said first deferred start time; and such that,

if processing of ~~a second processing job~~ second imaging information using said production device is requested and processing of ~~the second processing job~~ said second imaging information cannot be completed by ~~the production device~~ prior to the first deferred start time ~~of the first processing job~~, provide an option of reserving a second deferred start time for deferred processing of the second processing job is provided said second imaging information, the second deferred start time occurring after ~~the an~~ estimated completion time for deferred processing of ~~said first processing job~~ said first imaging information.

12. (Currently Amended) The destination service of claim 11 further operable to estimate resources required to process said first imaging information ~~in accordance~~ with said selected production options.

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13. (Currently Amended) The destination service of claim 12 further operable to reserve until said deferred start time said required resources in quantities sufficient to process said first imaging information ~~in accordance with~~ said selected production options.

14. (Original) The destination service of claim 13 further operable to monitor until said deferred start time said required resources and to display a warning message whenever any of said reserved resources is depleted to a quantity not greater than said reserved quantity of said reserved resource.

15-20. (Canceled)